

Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation Annual Report to the UUA - 2022

Who We've Been

Founded in 1963 through consolidation of Unitarian and Universalist women's organizations, the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation has taken many forms and explored many ways to contribute to change in the world.

In our most recent history, we've relied on sharing our financial resources as a primary tool for supporting justice work. This year, that included:

- **Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley Scholarships:** This scholarship, established in 2009 in honor of the Rev. Bowens-Wheatley and her commitment to more interracial and intercultural congregations in the UU movement, provides direct financial support to aspirants or candidates to the Unitarian Universalist ministry, or candidates in the UUA's religious education or music leadership programs, who identify as BIPOC women. This year, we chose to award the scholarship to seven women: Beyssa Buil, Peace Ebony, Angeline Jackson, JeKaren Olaoya, QuianaDenae Perkins, Elizabeth Valencia, and Vanessa Williams.
- **Clara Barton Sisterhood:** The purpose of the Clara Barton Sisterhood is to recognize and celebrate elder women in our UU world. We inducted seven new members into the Clara Barton Sisterhood this year: Pat Hadley, Gwenyth Hooper, Ellen Livingston, Natalie Tyler, Mary Ann Van Osdol, Barbara Whitcomb, and Joyce Williams.
- **Annual UUWF Breakfast:** The 2021 annual Breakfast was virtual this year, and we welcomed 340 participants to the virtual table.
- **Clara Barton Gender Justice Associateship:** This endowed Associateship is managed by the UUA and focuses on organizing and activating UUs for gender justice. The position was held this fiscal year by Adrian Ballou, working under the leadership of Michael Crumpler.
- In 2021, the curriculum *Dreamers, Devisers, Doers: Women Transforming Themselves and the World* by Elizabeth Cogliati was completed, and we are in the process of making it available via download.

Who We're Becoming

While we will continue to leverage our money for good, we seek to do so in the context of deeper relationship, activism, and community. We want to expand our work so that more people can see themselves in it, and can see a clear path by which they can be part of it. In June of 2022, we'll be welcoming a grassroots

organizer who, along with the Director, will re-energize old relationships and build new ones as well.

In May of 2022, we responded to the leaked Roe v Wade decision by issuing a statement, providing links and resources for where people could get involved, and hosting an Action Hour in partnership with Texas UU Justice Ministry to highlight their work on the ground in Texas.

We're moving away from a patriarchal, hierarchical way of shaping our work together, and have shifted to a dynamic governance/sociocracy model that includes shared power at the staff level. This is a work in progress! We are always learning and growing in this work.

People

We've welcomed Rev. Mandy Goheen to our Board of Directors.

In June of 2022, Rev. Terry Cummings and UUWF President Claire Sexton will be leaving the board.

Interim Director Ann Wiesner has dropped the "interim" from her title and will be leading strategy for the UUWF.